Dangerous rail bridges

* 2878. DR. A.K. PATEL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number and details of railway bridges under the category of dangerous bridges in the country, State-wise;

(b) whether it is a fact that the Railways have no modern equipment to know the underwater conditions of railway bridges; and

(c) if so, what steps Government propose to take to solve this problem?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI O. RAJAGOPAL): (a) Nil.

(b) and (c) Presently Railways do not have equipment to check the physical condition of portion of bridge remaining perennially underwater. A world wide search by contacting foreign companies claiming to having capability and equipment is on hand for identifying appropriate technologies and equipment for underwater inspection and assessment of condition of bridges. The process of side visits and presentations is in progress.

Over-bridge at Nandyal railway station

2879. SHRI YADLAPATI VENKAT RAO: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to construct a foot over-bridge at Nandyal Railway Station from Platform No. 1,2 and 3 for convenience of the passengers;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

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† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI O. RAJAGOPAL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A work for provision of Foot over Bridge has been sanctioned in 2001-02 at a cost of Rs. 23 lakh and tenders are under finalization.

(c) Does not arise.

Multi Model Suburban Commuter System for Hyderabad and Secunderabad

2880. DR. DASARI NARAYANA RAO: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state the details of the present status of the Multi Model Suburban Commuter Transport System for the twin cities of Hyderabad and Secunderabad in Andhra Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI O. RAJAGOPAL): A statement is attached.

Statement

Project for upgradation of routes of Falaknuma-Sccundcrabad, Secunderabad-Lingampally and Secunderabad - Nampally as phase I of the Multi Model Suburban Commuter Transport System has been included in the railway's work programme in the Supplementary Demands for Grants for the Railways 2001-02 at an estimated cost of Rs. 69.96 crore. The cost of the project is to be shared in the ratio of 50:50 between Railways and Government of Andhra Pradesh. Allocation of Rs. 25 crores has been made in the Railway Budget for year 2002-03. The work on the project is in progress and is targeted to be completed in the current financial year subject to timely land acquisition by State Government.

For identifying the overall transport system and structure of the Joint Venture Corporation proposed to be created, a Detailed Feasibility and Investment Banking Report (DFIBR) is to be prepared by a consultant. Andhra Pradesh Infrastructure Investment Corporation (APIIC), a corporation under the Government of Andhra Pradesh has been made a nodal agency for fixing up the